Federal Subsistence Board
News Release

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Forest Service

Nakwasina River watershed on Baranof Island in Unit 4 to close to the harvest of mountain goats

The Sitka District Ranger, under authority delegated by the Federal Subsistence Board, is taking action to close the Nakwasina River watershed to the harvest of mountain goats. The closure will be effective at 11:59 p.m., Friday September 23rd, 2016 and will remain in effect through the remainder of the 2016 season which ends December 31st. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has issued a concurrent closure in the same watershed. Based on aerial surveys, historical harvest and vulnerability to harvest, biologists have set a maximum guideline harvest objective of five male goats or one female goat in this area. As of Wednesday, September 21st, five male goats have been harvested. Continued mountain goat harvest in this area would be detrimental to the long term conservation of the mountain goat population.

The remainder of Baranof Island will remain open for goat hunting unless closed by past or future special action.

A map and description of the closed areas are available from the Sitka Ranger District Office and the Sitka area office of ADF&G. Information on Federal subsistence management special actions for the Tongass National Forest can be found at http://www.fs.usda.gov/news/tongass/news-events. For additional information, call Subsistence Biologist Justin Koller at 907-747-4297 or email him at jpkoller@fs.fed.us.

Information on the Federal Subsistence Management Program can be found at https://www.doi.gov/subsistence

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